For Immediate Release: March 31, 2021 Contact: SD COVID-19 Joint Information Center

South Dakota Department of Health Announces the Start of Phase 2 of COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

PIERRE, S.D. – Today, the South Dakota Department of Health announced the statewide move to Phase 2 of South Dakotas' <u>COVID-19 vaccination plan</u> beginning Monday, April 5th, 2021. With this move, vaccines will be made available to any state resident, over the age of 16, in addition to any persons from Phase 1 who have not yet chosen to be vaccinated.

"Given our efficient and orderly vaccination distribution efforts and increased allocation, we are delighted to open up Phase 2 starting Monday," said Kim Malsam-Rysdon, Secretary of Health. "Without a doubt, this is testament to the hard work and dedication of our frontline workers, our healthcare and pharmacy partners and the staff at the Department of Health. I encourage all South Dakotans to schedule their vaccination today."

South Dakota remains a leader in vaccination efforts, at both the regional and national level. As of today, 43% of the state population had received at least 1-dose and over 28% of the state's population has completed their full series. All residents can connect directly with a health partner serving their area by clicking here.

To get the most up to date COVID-19 data, updated daily, please visit the Department of Health dashboard.

###